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PTO/SB/30 (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031
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120

JCE 3671

**Request
for
Continued Examination (RCE)
Transmittal**

Address to:
Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Application Number	09/531,735
Filing Date	March 21, 2000
First Named Inventor	S. Levin
Art Unit	3671
Examiner Name	Arpad F. Kovacs
Attorney Docket Number	62318

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114 Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).

a. Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.

- Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Rely Brief previously filed on _____
- Other _____

b. Enclosed

- Amendment/Reply
- Affidavit(s)/ Declaration(s)
- Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- Other _____

2. Miscellaneous

a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)

b. Other _____

3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 50-1662

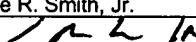
- RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e) 05/05/2004 MGEBRM1 00000072 09531735
- Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17) 01 FC:2801 385.00 OP
- Other _____

b. Check in the amount of \$ 385.00 enclosed

c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Jerome R. Smith, Jr.	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	35,684
Signature		Date	May 3, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Name (Print/Type)		
Signature		Date

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.114. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.



PATENT
Atty Docket No. 62318
Express Mail Label No. EV 471185480 US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s):	S. Levin, et al.	Group No.:	3671
Serial No.:	09/531,735	Examiner:	Arpad F. Kovacs
Filed:	March 21, 2000	Conf. No.:	7129
For:	Lawnmower Cutting Deck and Releasable Blade		

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT TO ACCOMPANY REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION
UNDER 37 CFR 1.121**

Dear Sir:

This paper is submitted to accompany the Request for Continued Examination for the above-listed patent application, the Request for Continued Examination filed herewith. This Paper is also submitted in response to the Final Office Action of October 29, 2003.

Please charge any additional fees associated with this paper to Deposit Account No. 50-1662.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that, on the date shown below, this correspondence is being

deposited with the United States Postal Service in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendments, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

MAILING

37 C.F.R. §1.8
 as first class mail.

37 C.F.R. §1.10
 as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee"
EXPRESS MAIL NO. EV 471185480 US

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

transmitted by facsimile to the Patent and Trademark Office.

Cheryl R. Couzens
Name of Depositor


Signature

May 3, 2004
Date

PATENT
Atty Docket No. 62318
Express Mail Label No. EV 471185480 US

Amendments to the claims begin on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins at page 3 of this paper. In these amendments, additions are underlined (_____), while deletions are in the strikethrough format.

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FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2004

Effective 10/01/2003. Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

 Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$ 385)

Complete If Known	
Application Number	09/531,735
Filing Date	March 21, 2000
First Named Inventor	S. Levin, et al.
Examiner Name	Arpad F. Kovacs
Art Unit	3671
Attorney Docket No.	62318

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)					FEE CALCULATION (continued)				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Check <input type="checkbox"/> Credit card <input type="checkbox"/> Money <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> None <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deposit Account:					3. ADDITIONAL FEES				
Deposit Account Number: 50-1662 Deposit Account Name: Polsinelli Shalton & Welte					Large Entity Small Entity				
The Director is authorized to: (check all that apply) <input type="checkbox"/> Charge fee(s) indicated below <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Credit any overpayments <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Charge any additional fee(s) during the pendency of this application <input type="checkbox"/> Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee to the above-identified deposit account.					Fee Description Fee Paid				
FEE CALCULATION					Fee Code (\$ Fee Code (\$ Fee Description Fee Paid				
1. BASIC FILING FEE					1051 130 2051 65 Surcharge - late filing fee or oath 1052 50 2052 25 Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet.				
Large Entity Small Entity					1053 130 1053 130 Non-English specification 1812 2,520 1812 2,520 For filing a request for reexamination 1804 920* 1804 920* Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action				
Fee Code (\$ Fee Code (\$ Fee Description Fee Paid					1805 1,840* 1805 1,840* Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action 1251 110 2251 55 Extension for reply within first month 1252 420 2252 210 Extension for reply within second month				
1001 770 2001 385 Utility filing fee 1002 340 2002 170 Design filing fee 1003 530 2003 265 Plant filing fee 1004 770 2004 385 Reissue filing fee 1005 160 2005 80 Provisional filing fee					1253 950 2253 475 Extension for reply within third month 1254 1,480 2254 740 Extension for reply within fourth month				
SUBTOTAL (1) (\$ 0)					1255 2,010 2255 1,005 Extension for reply within fifth month 1401 330 2401 165 Notice of Appeal 1402 330 2402 165 Filing a brief in support of an appeal 1403 290 2403 145 Request for oral hearing 1451 1,510 1451 1,510 Petition to institute a public use proceeding 1452 110 2452 55 Petition to revive - unavoidable 1453 1,330 2453 665 Petition to revive - unintentional				
2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES FOR UTILITY AND REISSUE					1501 1,330 2501 665 Utility issue fee (or reissue) 1502 480 2502 240 Design issue fee 1503 640 2503 320 Plant issue fee 1460 130 1460 130 Petitions to the Commissioner 1807 50 1807 50 Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17 (q) 1806 180 1806 180 Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt				
Total Claims: <input type="text"/> - ** = <input type="text"/> X <input type="text"/> = <input type="text"/> Independent Claims: <input type="text"/> - ** = <input type="text"/> X <input type="text"/> = <input type="text"/> Multiple Dependent: X <input type="text"/> = <input type="text"/>					Extra Claims Fee from below Fee Paid				
Large Entity Small Entity					8021 40 8021 40 Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties) 1809 770 2809 385 Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR § 1.129(a)) 1810 770 2810 385 For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR § 1.129(b))				
Fee Code (\$ Fee Code (\$ Fee Description					1801 770 2801 385 Request for Continued Examination (RCE) 385 1802 900 1802 900 Request for expedited examination of a design application				
1202 18 2202 9 Claims in excess of 20 1201 86 2201 43 Independent claims in excess of 3 1203 290 2203 145 Multiple dependent claim, if not paid ** Reissue independent claims over original patent 1204 86 2204 43 ** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent 1205 18 2205 9					Other fee (specify)				
SUBTOTAL (2) (\$ 0)					*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid SUBTOTAL (3) (\$ 385)				

*or number previously paid, if greater. For Reissues, see above

SUBMITTED BY			Complete (if applicable)		
Name (Print/Type)	Jerome R. Smith, Jr.	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	35,684	Telephone	816-360-4119
Signature			Date	May 3, 2004	

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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.17 and 1.27. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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